AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 12, and amend claims 1-11 and 13-21, in accordance with the following list of claims.

1.   (Currently Amended) A ~~conversation~~ system for <u>conversation through a network,</u> comprising:

~~a network;~~

a server apparatus which transfers ~~a message based on characters~~ <u>character-based messages</u> through said network;

a plurality of terminal apparatuses which perform a conversation ~~by the message based on said characters under the transfer~~ <u>using said-character based messages transferred</u> by said server apparatus through said network; and

a translating apparatus ~~which is~~ connected to said network, <u>which when it</u> receives ~~a message~~ <u>one of said character-based messages, which</u> ~~that~~ is transmitted from one of said plurality of terminal apparatuses through said network ~~and based on characters of one~~ <u>in a first</u> language, translates ~~the~~ <u>said one</u> received message <u>in</u> ~~based on the characters of~~ said ~~one~~ <u>first</u> language into a <u>translated character-based</u> message ~~based on characters of another~~ <u>in a second</u> language, and transmits <u>said</u> ~~the~~ translated message ~~based on the characters of said another~~ <u>in said second</u> language to said server apparatus, wherein

said server apparatus transfers said <u>translated</u> message which is received from said translating apparatus ~~and is based on the characters of~~ <u>in</u> said <u>second</u> ~~another~~ language to at least one terminal apparatus during a conversation among said plurality of terminal ~~apparatuses.~~ <u>apparatuses,</u>

<u>said translating apparatus, when it receives another one of said character-based messages, which is transmitted in said second language by another terminal apparatus other than said one terminal apparatus, translates said another received message in said second language into another translated message in said first language, and transmits said another translated message in said first language to said server apparatus, and</u>

<u>said translating apparatus includes:</u>

<u>a recording unit which records a history of the translation of the one received message in said first language into the translated message in said second language and a</u>

history of the translation of the another received message in said second language into the another translated message in the first language; and

a charging unit which charges said one terminal apparatus in accordance with said histories recorded in said recording unit.

2.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

said translating apparatus is ~~provided for~~ disposed in one of said plurality of terminal apparatuses,

said translating apparatus includes:

a receiving unit which receives the one character-based message in said first ~~based on the characters of said one~~ language from said server apparatus;

a translating unit which translates the one character-based message that is ~~was~~ received by said receiving unit in said first ~~and is based on the characters of said one~~ language into the translated message in said second ~~based on the characters of said another~~ language; and

a transmitting unit which transmits the translated message in said second language that is ~~was~~ translated by said translating unit ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~ to said server apparatus, and

said server apparatus transfers the translated message in said second language which is ~~was~~ received from said transmitting unit of said translating apparatus ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~.

3.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

said translating apparatus is ~~provided for~~ disposed in said server apparatus,

said translating apparatus has a translating unit which translates the one character-based message that is ~~was~~ received in said first language from said one terminal apparatus by said server apparatus ~~and is based on the characters of said one language~~ into the translated message in said second ~~based on the characters of said another~~ language, and

said server apparatus transfers in said second language the translated message ~~which was~~ translated by said translating unit ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~.

4.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said server apparatus transfers the <u>one character-based</u> message ~~based on the characters of~~ <u>in</u> said <u>first</u> ~~one~~ language to the <u>one</u> terminal apparatus which does not need ~~the~~ translation during a conversation among said plurality of terminal apparatuses.

5.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said server apparatus transfers the <u>one character-based</u> message ~~based on the characters of~~ <u>in</u> said <u>first</u> ~~one~~ language to all of the terminal apparatuses during a conversation among said plurality of terminal apparatuses.

6.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said server apparatus transfers the <u>translated character-based</u> message ~~based on the characters of~~ <u>in</u> said <u>second</u> ~~another~~ language to the <u>another</u> terminal apparatus, which needs ~~the~~ translation during a conversation among said plurality of terminal apparatuses.

7.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

<u>each of</u> said plurality of terminal apparatuses ~~have~~ <u>includes</u> an adding unit which adds transmission time information indicative of transmission time of the ~~message based on the characters of said one language to said message~~ <u>messages transmitted by said each terminal</u>, and

<u>each of</u> said plurality of terminal apparatuses ~~have~~ <u>includes</u>:

a rearranging unit which rearranges the messages which are transferred by said server apparatus and <u>received by said each terminal apparatus</u> ~~based on the characters of said one language~~ on the basis of said transmission time information; and

a display unit which displays the messages which were rearranged by said rearranging unit ~~and are based on the characters of said one language~~.

8.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

said server apparatus ~~has~~ <u>includes</u> an adding unit which adds transfer time information indicative of transmission time of the ~~message based on the characters of said~~

~~another language to said message~~ messages received from said translation apparatus to said messages, and

each of said plurality of terminal apparatuses ~~have~~ includes:

a rearranging unit which rearranges the messages which are transferred by said server apparatus and received by said each terminal apparatus ~~based on the characters of said another language~~ on the basis of said transfer time information; and

a display unit which displays the messages which were rearranged by said rearranging unit and ~~are based on the characters of said another language~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

each of said plurality of terminal apparatuses includes ~~have~~ an adding unit which adds transmission time information indicative of transmission time of the ~~message based on the characters of said one language to said message~~ messages transmitted by said each terminal to said messages,

said server apparatus ~~has~~ includes an adding unit for adding transfer time information indicative of transfer time of the ~~message based on the characters of said another language to said message~~ messages received from said translation apparatus to said messages, and

each of said plurality of terminal apparatuses ~~have~~ includes:

a rearranging unit which rearranges the message that is transferred by said server apparatus and received by said each terminal apparatus ~~based on the characters of said one language and the message that is transferred by said server apparatus and based on the characters of said another language~~ on the basis of said transmission time information and said transfer time information; and

a display unit which displays the messages ~~based on the characters of said one language and the messages based on the characters of said another language which were~~ rearranged by said rearranging unit.

10. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said translating apparatus has an analyzing unit which analyzes the one message from said one terminal

based on the characters of said ~~one~~ <u>first</u> language in order to <u>identify said first</u> ~~discriminate which language said one~~ language ~~is~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein

<u>each of</u> said plurality of terminal apparatuses ~~have~~ <u>includes</u>:

a notifying unit which notifies said translating apparatus of <u>an identity</u> ~~a kind~~ of said ~~one~~ <u>first</u> language prior to start of ~~a~~ <u>said</u> conversation <u>including</u> ~~of~~ said <u>first</u> ~~one~~ language, and

an adding unit which adds identification information for identifying said one terminal apparatus ~~to the~~ <u>in said one</u> message <u>transmitted by said one terminal in said first</u> ~~based on the characters of said one~~ language,

said translating apparatus has a judging unit which judges whether said <u>one</u> message has been transmitted from said one terminal apparatus or not on the basis of said identification information which is received from said one terminal apparatus ~~and was added to the message based on the characters of said one language~~, and

when said judging unit judges that said <u>one</u> message has been transmitted from said one terminal apparatus, said translating apparatus translates ~~the~~ <u>said one</u> message ~~based on~~ <u>in said first</u> ~~the characters of said one~~ language into <u>said translated</u> ~~the~~ message <u>in said second</u> ~~based on the characters of said another~~ language.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said translating apparatus ~~has~~ <u>includes</u> a general dictionary suitable for <u>all of the messages in</u> said ~~whole~~ conversation and a dedicated dictionary suitable for ~~a~~ specific <u>ones of the messages</u> ~~conversation~~ in said conversation.

14. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 13, wherein said dedicated dictionary is provided for ~~every plural~~ <u>a</u> specific <u>group of</u> terminal apparatuses among said plurality of terminal apparatuses.

15.   (Currently Amended)   A system according to claim 13, wherein said dedicated dictionary is provided for ~~each~~ a specific one of the plurality of terminal ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses.

16.   (Currently Amended)   A translating apparatus for a conversation system operating in a network, ~~wherein~~ said conversation system ~~includes~~ having:

        ~~a network;~~

        a server apparatus which transfers ~~a message based on characters~~ character-based messages through said network; and

        a plurality of terminal apparatuses which perform a conversation ~~by the message based on said characters under the transfer~~ using said-character based messages transferred by said server apparatus through said ~~network; and~~ network,

        wherein said ~~a~~ translating apparatus ~~which~~ is connected to said network, and when it receives ~~a message~~ one of said character-based messages, which ~~that~~ is transmitted from one of said plurality of terminal apparatuses through said network ~~and based on characters of one~~ in a first language, translates ~~the~~ said one received message in ~~based on the characters of~~ said ~~one~~ first language into a translated character-based message ~~based on characters of another~~ in a second language, and transmits said ~~the~~ translated message ~~based on the characters of said another~~ in said second language to said server apparatus, ~~and~~

        wherein ~~the~~ said translated message ~~which was~~ translated by said translating apparatus ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~ is transferred in said second language to at least one terminal apparatus during a conversation among said plurality of terminal apparatuses by said server ~~apparatus.~~ apparatus,

        wherein said translating apparatus, when it receives another one of said character-based messages, which is transmitted in said second language by another terminal apparatus other than said one terminal apparatus, translates said another received message in said second language into another translated message in said first language, and transmits said another translated message in said first language to said server apparatus, and

        wherein said translating apparatus includes:

        a recording unit which records a history of the translation of the one received

message in said first language into the translated message in said second language and a history of the translation of the another received message in said second language into the another translated message in the first language; and

a charging unit which charges said one terminal apparatus in accordance with said histories recorded in said recording unit.

17.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein

said translating apparatus is ~~provided for~~ disposed in one of said plurality of terminal apparatuses,

said translating apparatus includes:

a receiving unit which receives the one character-based message in said first ~~based on the characters of said one~~ language from said server apparatus;

a translating unit which translates the one character-based message that is ~~was~~ received by said receiving unit in said first ~~and is based on the characters of said one~~ language into the translated message in said second ~~based on the characters of said another~~ language; and

a transmitting unit which transmits the translated message in said second language that is ~~was~~ translated by said translating unit ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~ to said server apparatus, and

the translated message that is ~~was~~ transmitted in said second language by said transmitting unit of said translating apparatus ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~ is transferred by said server apparatus.

18.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 16, wherein

said translating apparatus is ~~provided for~~ disposed in said server apparatus,

said translating apparatus has a translating unit which translates the one character-based message that is ~~was~~ received in said first language from said one terminal apparatus by said server apparatus ~~and is based on the characters of said one language~~ into the translated message in said second ~~based on the characters of said another~~ language, and

the translated message ~~which was~~ translated by said translating unit ~~and is based on the characters of said another language~~ is transferred in said second language by said server

apparatus.

19.   (Currently Amended) A server apparatus for a conversation system operating in a network, which transfers character-based messages through said network, ~~wherein~~ said conversation system ~~includes~~ having:

~~a network;~~

~~said server apparatus which transfers a message based on characters through said network;~~

a plurality of terminal apparatuses which perform a conversation ~~by the message based on said characters under the transfer~~ using said-character based messages transferred by said server apparatus through said network; and

a translating apparatus ~~which is~~ connected to said network, which when it receives ~~a message~~ one of said character-based messages, which ~~that~~ is transmitted from one of said plurality of terminal apparatuses through said network ~~and based on characters of one~~ in a first language, translates ~~the~~ said one received message in ~~based on the characters of~~ said ~~one~~ first language into a translated character-based message ~~based on characters of another~~ in a second language, and transmits said ~~the~~ translated message ~~based on the characters of said another~~ in said second language to said server apparatus, ~~and~~ wherein

the translated message which is received from said translating apparatus in said second ~~and based on the characters of said another~~ language is transferred to at least one terminal apparatus during a conversation among said plurality of terminal ~~apparatuses.~~ apparatuses, wherein

said translating apparatus, when it receives another one of said character-based messages, which is transmitted in said second language by another terminal apparatus other than said one terminal apparatus, translates said another received message in said second language into another translated message in said first language, and transmits said another translated message in said first language to said server apparatus, and

said translating apparatus includes:

a recording unit which records a history of the translation of the one received message in said first language into the translated message in said second language and a history of the translation of the another received message in said second language into the

another translated message in the first language; and

a charging unit which charges said one terminal apparatus in accordance with said histories recorded in said recording unit.

20.   (Currently Amended) A terminal apparatus for a conversation system operating in a network, wherein said conversation system includes:

a network;

a server apparatus which transfers a message based on characters through said network;

said terminal apparatus is on of a plurality of terminal apparatuses which perform a conversation through said network using character-based messages, by the message based on said characters under the transfer by said server apparatus through said network; and

said conversation system includes:

a server apparatus which transfers a message based on characters said character-based messages through said network; and

a translating apparatus which is connected to said network, which when it receives a message one of said character-based messages, which that is transmitted from one of said plurality of terminal apparatus apparatuses through said network and based on characters of one in a first language, translates the said one received message in based on the characters of said one-first language into a translated character-based message based on characters of another in a second language, and transmits said the translated message based on the characters of said another in said second language to said server apparatus, and

the translated message which is transmitted from said translating apparatus in said second and based on the characters of said another language is transferred to at least one terminal apparatus during a conversation among said plurality of terminal apparatuses by said server apparatus. apparatus,

said translating apparatus, when it receives another one of said character-based messages, which is transmitted in said second language by another one of the plurality of terminal apparatuses other than said terminal apparatus, translates said another received message in said second language into another translated message in said first language, and

transmits said another translated message in said first language to said server apparatus, and

said translating apparatus includes:

a recording unit which records a history of the translation of the one received message in said first language into the translated message in said second language and a history of the translation of the another received message in said second language into the another translated message in the first language; and

a charging unit which charges said terminal apparatus in accordance with said histories recorded in said recording unit.

21.   (Currently Amended) A ~~conversation~~ method for conversation through a network, comprising:

transmitting ~~a step which transmits~~ a first character-based message ~~based on characters of one~~ in a first language through said ~~a~~ network from a first terminal apparatus to a server apparatus;

~~a step which receives the message based on the characters of said one language through said network;~~

translating ~~a step which translates~~ the first message received ~~message based on the characters of said one~~ by the server apparatus in the first language into a second character-based message ~~based on the characters of another~~ in a second language; ~~and~~

~~a step which broadcast transmits~~ transferring the second ~~translated~~ message ~~based on the characters of said another~~ in the second language from the server apparatus to a second terminal apparatus;

transmitting a third character-based message in the second language from the second terminal apparatus to the server apparatus;

translating the third message received by the server apparatus in the second language into a fourth character-based message in the first language;

transferring the fourth message in the first language from the server apparatus to the first terminal apparatus;

recording a history of the translation of the first message in the first language into the second message in the second language and a history of the translation of the third

message in the second language into the fourth message in the first language; and

charging the first terminal apparatus in accordance with said recorded histories.